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Blackstar
AMPLIFICATION

HT-5

Owner's Manual

the sound in your head

Designed and Engineered by
Blackstar Amplification UK

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with dry cloth.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings.
   Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
11. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
12. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
13. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

“TO COMPLETELY DISCONNECT THIS APPARATUS FROM THE AC MAINS, DISCONNECT THE POWER SUPPLY CORD PLUG FROM THE AC RECEPTACLE”.

“WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE AND OBJECTS FILLED WITH LIQUIDS, SUCH AS VASES, SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THIS APPARATUS”.

This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operation and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

This symbol is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated “dangerous voltage” within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

Warning!

Important safety information!

READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY. SAVE ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product!

Danger! High internal operating voltages

Do not open the equipment case. There are no user serviceable parts in this equipment. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

Clean only with a dry cloth.

Condensation can form on the inside of an amplifier if it is moved from a cold environment to a warmer location. Before switching the unit on, it is recommended that that the unit me allowed to reach room temperature.

Unauthorised modification of this equipment is expressly forbidden by Blackstar Amplification Ltd.

Never push objects of any kind into ventilation slots on the equipment casing.

Do not expose this apparatus to rain, liquids or moisture of any type.

Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product!

Do not place this product on an unstable trolley, stand or table. The product may fall, causing serious damage to the product or to persons!

Do not cover or block ventilation slots or openings.

This product should not be placed near a source of heat such as a stove, radiator, or another heat producing amplifier.

Use only the supplied power cord which is compatible with the mains voltage supply in your area.

Power supply cords should always be handled carefully and should be replaced if damaged in any way.

Never break off the earth (ground) pin on the power supply cord.

The power supply cord should be unplugged when the unit is to be unused for long periods of time.

Before the unit is switched on, the loudspeaker should be connected as described in the handbook using the lead recommended by the manufacturer.

Always replace damaged fuses with the correct rating and type.

Never disconnect the protective mains earth connection.

High loudspeaker levels can cause permanent hearing damage. You should therefore avoid the direct vicinity of loudspeakers operating at high levels. Wear hearing protection if continuously exposed to high levels.

If the product does not operate normally, when the operating instructions are followed, then refer the product to a qualified service engineer.

The U.S. Government´s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has specified the following permissible noise level exposures:

Duration Per Day In Hours	Sound Level dBA, Slow Response
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1½	102
1	105
½	110
¼ or less	115

According to OSHA, any exposure in excess of the above permissible limits could result in some hearing loss.

Ear plug protectors in the ear canals or over the ears must be worn when operating this amplification system in order to prevent a permanent hearing loss if exposure is in excess of the limits as set forth above. To ensure against potentially dangerous exposure to high sound pressure levels, it is recommended that all persons exposed to equipment capable of producing high sound pressure levels such as this amplification system be protected by hearing protectors while this unit is in operation.

All electrical and electronic products should be disposed of separately from the municipal waste stream via designated collection facilities appointed by the government or the local authorities.

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Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Blackstar HT-5 amplifier. Like all our products, this amp is the result of countless hours of painstaking Research and Development by our world-class design team. Based in Northampton (UK), the Blackstar team are all experienced musicians themselves and the sole aim of the development process is to provide guitarists with products which are the ultimate tools for self expression.

All Blackstar products are subjected to extensive laboratory and road testing to ensure that they are truly uncompromising in terms of reliability, quality and above all TONE.

If you like what you hear and want to find out more about the Blackstar range of products please visit our website at www.blackstaramps.com.

Thanks!

The Blackstar Team

Features

The HT-5 is the ultimate studio and practice amp, packing all the great tone and innovative features of the award-winning HT valve pedals into a two channel, footswitchable valve amp format. The patent-applied-for ISF (Infinite Shape Feature) circuit gives you infinite adjustment over the characteristics of the tone control network and takes you from the USA to the UK and any where in between. So now you can effectively design your own tone and finally find 'the sound in your head'.

In making the HT-5 ideally suited to home and studio use, the aim was to develop a valve amp which sounded full and toneful even at the lowest volume level. With this in mind the Blackstar design team designed a brand new valve power amplifier topology. The HT-5 power amplifier is a low powered push-pull design which produces the crunch and break-up characteristics of a traditional 100W output stage but at a much lower volume. This is achieved by the use of a 12BH7 dual triode in push-pull configuration producing 5 watts output, which is rich in valve harmonics and compression.

The HT-5 also has a fully specified speaker emulated output which further enhances the studio credentials and allows any guitarist to get amazing valve tone straight to tape or disk, or through headphones. It also features the unique 4x12/1x12 voicing switch allowing you to change the tonal characteristics of the emulated signal between two emulated cabinet types.

Add to this an effects loop with switchable level, along with 16Ω and 8Ω speaker outputs which allow you to run the amp into an external speaker cabinet of your choice, and you have everything you need for recording or practising.

Front Panel

1. Input

1. Input Plug your guitar in here. Always use a good quality screened guitar lead.

2. Clean Volume

This controls the volume of the Clean Channel. Turning it clockwise increases the volume.

3. Overdrive Select

Press this switch to select the Overdrive Channel.

4. Overdrive Indicator

When the RED LED is on the Overdrive Channel is selected. When the LED is off the Clean Channel is in operation.

5. Overdrive Gain

The Gain control adjusts the amount of the Overdrive Channel's overdrive or distortion. Low settings, counter clockwise, will deliver a clean sound on the edge of break-up. As the Gain control is increased clockwise (CW) the sound will become more overdriven moving through crunch tones until, at its maximum position, a full distorted lead tone is arrived at.

6. Overdrive Volume

This controls the volume of the Overdrive Channel. Turning it clockwise increases the volume.

7. Bass

The Bass control adjusts the amount of low end frequencies in your tone. This amp has an advanced tone shaping circuit which allows the tone to be tight and cutting, counter clockwise (CCW), to warm and thumping (CW).

8. Middle

The Middle control adjusts the amount of middle frequencies in your tone. The middle frequencies are particularly important in Setting the amount of 'body' your tone has. With the Middle control set to its minimum position (fully CCW) the sound will be aggressive and scooped, a tone ideal for aggressive rhythm playing. As the Middle control is increased (CW) the amount of 'body' is increased, which is more suitable for sustained lead guitar tones.

9. Treble

The Treble control allows exact adjustment of the treble frequencies within the sound. At low settings (CCW) the sound will be warm and darker in character. As the Treble control is increased (CW) the sound will become brighter. At the maximum settings the sound will be aggressive and cutting.

10. ISF (Infinite Shape Feature)

The ISF control works in conjunction with the Bass, Middle and Treble controls. It allows you to choose the exact tonAL signature you prefer. Fully CCW has a more American characteristic with a tight bottom end and more aggressive middle, and fully CW has a British characteristic which is more 'woody' and less aggressive.

11. Headphones & Speaker Emulated Output

This output emulates the tonal characteristics of a guitar speaker cabinet and provides a natural valve overdrive tone for connection to a recording device or mixing desk, and for use with headphones. Always use a good quality screened guitar lead.

12. Cabinet Switch

The switch enables you to select either a 4x12 closed back or a 1x12 open back cabinet emulation for the Speaker Emulated Output.

13. Power Indicator Light

The power indicator will light when the amplifier is switched on.

14. Standby

This switch applies the H.T. (High Tension) voltage required to produce sound. Always turn this switch on at least 30 seconds after the Power switch (15). During short breaks in playing use just this switch to turn 'off' and 'on' the amplifier's output.

15. Power

This switch is used to turn the amplifier on and off. You should always turn this switch on before turning on the Standby switch (14).

Rear Panel

1. Mains Input

The supplied detachable mains lead is connected here. The lead should only be connected to a power outlet that is compatible with the voltage, power and frequency requirements stated on the rear panel. If in doubt get advice from a qualified technician.

2. Speaker Outputs

The output marked '1x16 Ohm' is for the connection of a single 16 Ohm extension speaker cabinet (or the internal loudspeaker of the HT-5 combo).

The outputs marked '1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' are for the connection of either a single 8 Ohm extension cabinet or two 16 Ohm cabinets. Also, the internal loudspeaker of the HT-5 combo can be plugged in here if it is used with a 16 Ohm extension cabinet. See table below.

	'1x16 Ohm' output	'1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm' outputs	
Internal 16 Ohm combo speaker	✓	X	X
One 16 Ohm extension cabinet	✓	X	X
Two 16 Ohm extension cabinets	X	✓	✓
Single 8 Ohm extension cabinet	X	✓	X

WARNING: The output marked '1x16 Ohm' should never be used at the same time as either of the outputs marked '1x8 Ohm or 2x16 Ohm'.

3. Footswitch

ThThe supplied footswitch is connected here. The footswitch enables you to switch between the Clean and Overdrive channels.

4. Effect Loop Send

Connect the (mono) input of an external effects unit here.

5. Effect Loop Return

Connect the (mono) output of an external effects unit here.

6. Effect Loop Level

The Effect Loop Level switch sets the effects loop to either +4dBV/-10dBV, which enables you to use it with either professional equipment (+4dBV setting), or with guitar level effects such as effects pedals (-10dBV setting).

Technical Specification

HT-5 Combo

Power (RMS): 5 Watts

Valves: 1 x ECC83, 1 x 12BH7

Weight (kg): 11.5

Dimensions (mm): 442 x 430 x 235

Footswitch: FS-1 supplied

HT-5H Head

Power (RMS): 5 Watts

Valves: 1 x ECC83, 1 x 12BH7

Weight (kg): 7.6

Dimensions (mm): 442 x 223 x 226

Footswitch: FS-1 supplied

HT-110 Extension Cabinet

Power Rating (RMS): 40 Watts

Impedance: 16 Ohms

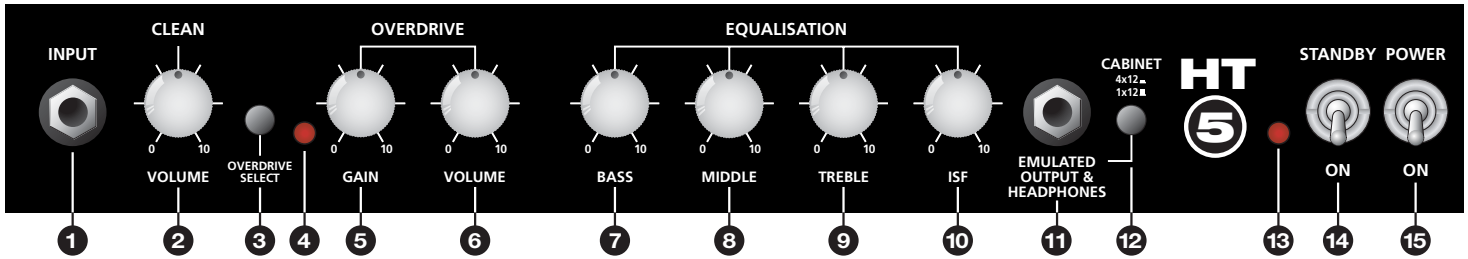
Speaker: 1 x 10˝ Celestion

Weight (kg): 10.6

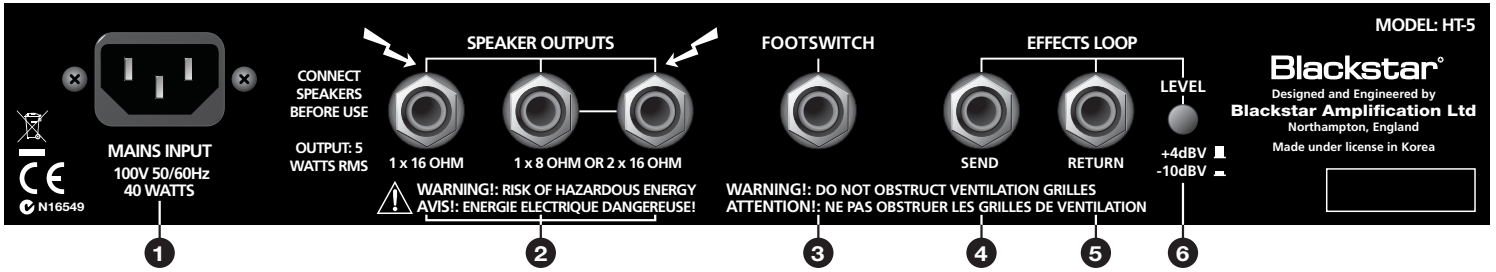
Dimensions (mm): 442 x 442 x 247

English

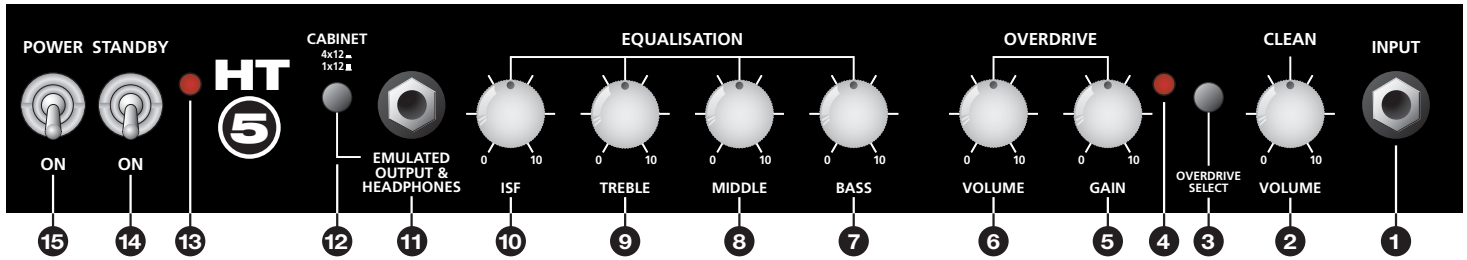
HT-5 Combo Front Panel



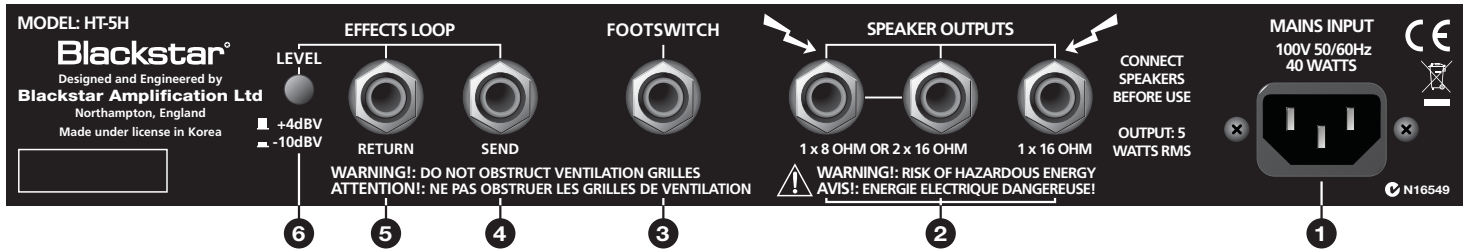
HT-5 Combo Rear Panel



HT-5H Head Front Panel



HT-5H Head Rear Panel



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For the latest information go to: www.blackstaramps.com

Whilst the information contained herein is correct at the time of publication, due to our policy of constant improvement and development, Blackstar Amplification Ltd reserves the right to alter specifications without prior notice.